

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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A CAUSTIC REPORT

THAT IS LIKELY TO CREATE A STIR IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES

Submitted by a Standing Committee of the New Jersey State Civic Federation—It Treats on the Status of Dependents—Grand Army Men Likely to be Aroused by the Description of a Soldier's Home.

The report of the New Jersey State Civic Federation's Standing Committee on Dependents has been issued in pamphlet form, and is deserving the attention of all State, county and municipal officials, in that it deals with one of the most important sociological problems that the administrators of government, either State, county, or local, have to contend with in the administration of public affairs, and that is the care of paupers, imbeciles, and the insane, and other classes of unfortunate who are dependent upon the State or town for their care and maintenance. Some idea of the magnitude of what is known as the dependent classes in this State can be formed from these figures taken from the report:

"The appropriation for the regular expenses of the county lunatic asylums was \$220,100; the special appropriation \$18,300; total, \$238,400. Appropriation for regular expenses of State Home for Boys, \$62,500; special, \$2,913.19; total, \$65,413.19. State Home for Girls, \$75,630; special, \$3,199; total, \$78,829. Regular appropriation for Blind and Feeble-minded, \$97,300; special appropriation, \$17,500; a second special appropriation \$3,000; total, \$117,800. Borden-town Manual Training and Industrial School for Colored Youth, regular appropriation, \$5,000; special, \$3,500; total, \$8,500. State Board of Children's Guardians, \$6,000. Rahway Reformatory, for regular expenses, \$73,500; special, \$15,500; total, \$89,000. Egleston Village, regular expenses, \$36,150; special, \$43,900; other special, \$442.32; total, \$80,492.32. Kearny Soldiers' Home, regular expenses, \$30,000; for new dormitories, \$5,000; total, \$35,000. Vineland Soldiers' Home, regular expense, \$11,000; special, \$25,300; second special \$3,958.33; total, \$40,258.33. Pensions for superannuated State servants, \$3,784; special, \$380.65. The sum total of these amounts is \$1,345,961.31 spent last year. Besides this the State is building a home for consumptives. The estimated cost of the home was \$60,000, but I was told by a man who understands the finances of this State as well as, if not better than, any one that this home will cost fully one-half million (a statement since fully verified)."

A lively time may be anticipated if the report of the Civic Federation Committee on Dependents falls into the hands of some of the members of that organization known as the Grand Army of the Republic. Here is what the report says about one of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Homes maintained by the State:

"The Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Vineland (supposed to be for the disabled, but as far as I could see they were as able-bodied as most men of their years) I asked the man in charge of this home if these men and women had no children who could care for them. He replied, 'O yes, indeed they all have. They sometimes ask for a vacation of a week or so, sometimes they ask for three weeks, but they never stay out their time; they quarrel or don't get on well with the children, and they have it nicer and easier here.'"

"Is it not time for the intelligent men and women of New Jersey to become acquainted with the facts and see if some more equitable distribution of money can not be made? Is it not time to discriminate between sentimentality and real need? Ought not the State, in self-defense, if for no other reason, to train and educate the young men quite as much as to provide luxuries for men and women who may not have earned them, and who were paid for their services the years they spent in the country's employ, and who have children whose bounden duty it is to care and provide for them? If it is not possible for the children to take their parents in their own homes, why should they not pay a nominal board for them in an institution?"

"Last year a special appropriation of \$25,000 was obtained to build a dormitory for the widows of the soldiers and sailors, the year before an appropriation of over \$3,000 for a new plant, and one of \$3,500 for a new laundry, etc., etc. These soldiers and sailors all are drawing pensions from the United States, but in cases where the pension exceeds twelve or eighteen dollars per month, half of the amount in excess of the twelve or eighteen dollars is paid to the institution."

The inmates of this home are all from rank and file (the keeper of the institution told me that there were no officers among the occupants). They are kept in absolute idleness, help in way with any of the work, even their

tobacco is provided for them, and they live in a way superior to that in which they lived in the days of their greatest prosperity. Good, light, airy rooms, steam heat, electric light, beautiful grounds, good food (I saw the menu for several weeks), conveniences and conditions which the average men and women in the class of life of these people could not begin to enjoy, and all that is required is for the man to have been at some time a member of the army or navy. No special time of service is required. It is only necessary for the man to have been in the State of New Jersey two years, no matter where they were born or where they have spent the greater part of their lives.

Many people may agree with the sentiment expressed in the committee's report, but it is safe to assert that but few people will be found who will make public confession of this agreement. The soldiers' homes, however, are not the only institutions for dependents that are freely and boldly criticized by the committee.

Here is a rap at the heartless element in the community who connive in all kinds of ways to escape the cost of maintaining unfortunate members of their families. "Men and women," the report says, "who would never dream of stealing from each other do not hesitate to get people cared for in institutions and pay little or nothing for their care. Have we the right to allow these people to shift their moral responsibilities? How can they become good and useful citizens with such warped and twisted ideas of morals? If the State quietly assumes the responsibilities of the many who come to our shores, is it any wonder that all our institutions are over-crowded; and worse than that, are we not morally pauperizing them? What kind of men and women are we making of those whom we are teaching to throw aside their responsibilities and with them their self respect?"

The report also criticizes the political element that is in evidence in the appointment of men and women to official positions in the institutions and the lax laws or lack of laws governing the social relations between the sexes among the dependent classes.

The report of the Civic Federation Committee should be read by every taxpayer citizen of this State, and particularly by those who are too apt to let sentiment get the better of sound sense in matters of charity. It is a fitting rebuke to knavish politicians, who, under the guise of charity are continually framing and furthering schemes for the looting of a too well filled State treasury.

Banner-Kronold String Quartette.

A few words about this celebrated quartette, which has been engaged by the Jarvis Memorial Library for two concerts, may be of timely interest. Mr. Hans Kronold scarcely needs an introduction to Bloomfield where he has been heard several times as a soloist. He is known to musical people from Maine to California as the greatest and most popular "cellist" now before the American public; to hear him is to hear perfection of cellist playing.

Mr. Michael Banner is a solo violinist of very high reputation, a very worthy pupil of the celebrated Dvorak. Mr. Kronold, whose position is a guarantee of any statement he may make, says: "Expect the very best from Michael Banner; he is absolutely the leading violinist in New York to-day." Mr. Richard Polman, second violin in the quartette, is first violin with the Wetliar Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. Mr. Philip Herford, viola, is a member of the New York Philharmonic Society, Carnegie Hall; both are masters of their instruments.

With this combination of talent it is certain we shall have an opportunity of hearing the very best music played in the very best manner. The details of the programme have not yet been arranged, but it is understood that Mr. Kronold and Mr. Banner will both be heard in solos.

To Tax Signboards.

The Governor's bill to do away with the unsightly advertising signs which mar the beauty of the landscape along the lines of the railroads in this State made its appearance in the House Tuesday.

It was introduced by Mr. Colby and provides that no person or association or corporation shall hereafter erect or maintain any billboard or sign for advertising any article except in connection with, or pertaining to, the premises whereon the said billboard or sign is erected, without first obtaining a license therefor from the licensing authorities of the municipality wherein the same shall be located. The municipality shall fix the fee, which shall in no event be less than \$5 per square foot of sign or advertisement per annum. Penalty, \$250 for each violation, to be sued for in the name of the State, and one-half of the fine shall go to the informer.

TRAVELS OF A SPOON.

Grandma Harrison's Gift to Her Grand-daughter Among Stolen Property Recovered by the Police—The Man Who Robbed Brookside School in December Last Now in Jail—May Result in a Clue to Other Robberies Here.

Chief of Police Louis M. Collins on Wednesday recovered a silver spoon belonging to Virginia Augusta Harrison, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Wilfred F. Harrison of Broad street, and which was taken from the Brookside School on the night of December 16, when that school was entered by thieves and a quantity of lead pencils and other school utensils were stolen. The initials V. A. H. were engraved on the spoon, and it was given to Virginia Harrison by her grandmother just before the latter left for Texas. The little girl took the present to school to show it to her teacher, and it was left in the teacher's desk.

The recovery of the spoon was due to the arrest of George Finch, a colored man, in Elizabeth last week. Finch was taken into custody by a new man on the Elizabeth police force on the ground that he was a suspicious character. The arrest proved to be an important one. It turned out upon examination that Finch was the man who had been robbing school-houses in this part of the State. He gave his residence as No. 32 Arlington street, Newark, and a search of the premises was made, when a large quantity of materials stolen from school-houses was found in the rooms, and among the effects was Virginia Harrison's spoon. Chief Collins of this town had a long talk with Finch, and accused him directly of having perpetrated other robberies here. Finch denied the accusations, and disclaimed all knowledge of the whereabouts of Bloomfield. But the fact that the Brookside School property was found in his house was proof to the contrary. Finch told Chief Collins that a noted crook known as "Kid" Jackson had been operating in Montclair and Glen Ridge. The police authorities of Newark believe that Finch and his pals are the perpetrators of numerous robberies in Essex, Passaic, Hudson and Union counties. When Finch was confronted with having robbed Public School No. 7 in Kearny he said that Elmer Hopping, a white man, was the principal in that robbery, and that he (Finch) only got one dollar for his assistance. The Kearny police arrested Hopping, who denies Finch's story. It is expected that Finch will yet make some important revelations that will lead to other arrests and solve many of the robbery mysteries that have puzzled the police of late.

Track Elevation Plans.

Walter W. Rose, general counsel of the Lackawanna Railroad, made the declaration at the meeting of the New England Society of Orange Saturday night that the officials of that road were considering the feasibility of eliminating the Bergen tunnel by substituting in its place an open cut.

Mr. Rose had been invited to explain the plans of the Lackawanna road in its general scheme of track elevation through Orange. He said it was the intention to begin the elevation at Harrison street, crossing Oakwood avenue by bridge.

At the next crossing, a few feet further west, the street was to be closed, because "bridges cost money." The rest of the scheme for elevation was about the same as outlined in reports made from time to time.

The plans for elevation through East Orange, Mr. Rose said, had not been completed. He was not prepared to say whether it was feasible to depress the tracks from Roseville to Scotland street. The tracks would be taken out of Scotland street, but the ultimate disposition of that street would depend upon negotiations with the city. The sum total of the cost of the work would be \$1,798,000.

Mr. Rose said that plans were being prepared for four double-deck ferryboats and a new ferryboat at Twenty-third street, and that it was the desire of the company to give the best possible service.

Belleville Won.

In a closely contested game at Belleville Saturday night the Belleville A. A. senior basketball team defeated the Bloomfield A. C. five by the score of 39 to 24. Bloomfield put up a stubborn

battle throughout, and at the end of the first half was only four points behind its opponent, 14 to 10. The home team broke away in the final period, however, and finished fifteen points to the good. The line-up:

Bloomfield A. A.	Belleville A. A.		
Stoddard	right forward	Bloomfield A. A.	right forward
Stoddard	left forward	Stoddard	left forward
Stoddard	center	Stoddard	center
Stoddard	right guard	Stoddard	right guard
Stoddard	left guard	Stoddard	left guard
Stoddard	points	Stoddard	points

Scores at end of first half—Belleville A. A. 14, Bloomfield A. C. 10. Final score—Belleville A. A. 39, Bloomfield A. C. 24. Field goals—Stoddard 1, Schick 4, Gibson 4, Stubb, Swinney 5, Hagan, Lancaster 2, Schultze, Sticker 2. Free throws—Stoddard. Time of halves—Twenty minutes. Referee—J. Young of Belleville. Umpire—J. Young of Belleville. Time-keeper—L. Brooks of Belleville.

DEATH OF JUDGE POST.

Passed Away Thursday Afternoon at His Son's Home in New York City—Was well known throughout Essex County—His Death Causes an Official Vacancy.

Jacob G. Post, Police Recorder and a Justice of the Peace, died, on Thursday afternoon at the home of his son, John G. Post, Forty-fourth street, New York City. Judge Post, as he was familiarly called, had been in failing health for a year past. Several weeks ago his illness took an alarming turn, and he was taken to the Mountsinclair Hospital. He so far recovered as to be able to be about again, but he was unfit for business. About three weeks ago he again returned to the hospital, but his illness had assumed a form that affected his mind, and he was taken in charge by members of his family. The announcement of his death was daily expected by those who bid him farewell when he left town about two weeks ago.

Judge Post was about sixty years old. He was born, it is said, near Paterson, and his parents came to this town when Jacob was a boy. His father was a harness maker, and conducted a harness store here. With the exception of a few years in which he was in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Judge Post spent nearly all his time here. He married John Taylor's daughter, and resided in Franklin street. In the course of his life here he was engaged in a variety of business enterprises. At one time he conducted a butcher business in the store now occupied by Roth & Company. During these latter years he was engaged in the real estate business, and made a specialty of selling property at auction.

Judge Post from his boyhood took an active interest in politics and was a member of the various Republican organizations here during Presidential campaigns. He was some times engaged as a stump speaker in such campaigns and spoke in rural towns throughout the county. He was a constant attendant at Republican County Conventions. He was a Justice of the Peace for many years here and served two terms as Police Recorder.

The Judge was of an easy and genial disposition and always enjoyed a degree of popularity. One of his favorite proverbs was "Blessed be nothing." He was original and witty in his remarks on various subjects and it was this characteristic that made him popular and kept him before the public.

Mr. Post was a member of the lodge of Elks here. He is survived by a son, John G. Post, and two daughters, Mrs. Florence Halseuslein and Miss Ethel Post.

The death of Judge Post causes an official vacancy which the Town Council may fill by appointment Monday night. The present acting Police Recorder is Justice of the Peace George M. Cadmus, whom many people would like to see retained in the office.

Fell From Train.

Horace H. Archer, formerly of this town, but now of 314 Main street, Belleville, was painfully injured Wednesday night by being thrown from an Erie train at the Essex station in Belleville. The train, which is due at 7:30 from New York, instead of stopping right at the depot, went some distance beyond. A number of passengers had alighted when the brakeman, it is said, gave the signal to reverse.

The train, however, went forward with a sudden jolt, which caused Mr. Archer to lose his balance on the steps of the coach and fall to the ground. He lay there stunned for some time, and when able to arise he found his hip was injured. He managed, however, to walk home unassisted.

Men's Banquet.

The men's banquet in the Parish House of St. Paul's Episcopal Church Thursday night was an enjoyable social affair and afforded great pleasure to all who attended. Dr. Harry E. Richards of this town was one of the speakers, and his topic was "Washington." Dr. Richards took exception to the tendencies manifested by some people in these times to depreciate Washington's place in American history. Other speakers were the Rev. C. C. Edmunds, Judge John Franklin Fort, Archbishop Mann and W. Stagg Corcoran. A beautiful repast was served by the ladies of St. Paul's Church.

Basket-Ball.

The Westminster Cadet Corps basketball team defeated the Promo Five at the High School gymnasium Monday evening by the score 11 to 9. The game was very exciting and the cadets only won by the narrowest kind of playing.

The line-up:

Westminster	Promo		
Stone	left forward	Hogan	left forward
Farrand	right forward	Cook	right forward
Adams	center	Schneider	center
Ackerman	left guard	H. Ferguson	left guard
Ackerman	right guard	Harrison	right guard

Field goals—Farrand 1, Stone 2, Ferguson 1, Cook 1, Hogan 1. Goals from fouls—Cook 2, Stone 1. Time of halves—15 minutes. Referee—Mr. King. Umpire—Mr. H. Maxwell.

Eichhorn's Birthday.

First Assistant Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, Herman Eichhorn, was 47 years old Monday. Beyond a feeling of regret that he was getting old, Mr. Eichhorn attached no extraordinary importance to the day, but not so with his friends. The latter deemed it an occasion for some unusual manifestation of their esteem for their neighbor and friend.

The month of February is memorable as the birth month of great Americans whose birthday anniversaries are nationally observed. Virginia has its Washington, whose lofty patriotism is exemplary the world over. Illinois has its Lincoln, who stands next to Washington in the reverential esteem of all loyal Americans, and Watseong has its Eichhorn, who in a perhaps narrow sphere has devotedly followed in the path of his illustrious predecessors in loyalty and patriotism. What Washington was to the colonies, what Lincoln was to the Union, Mr. Eichhorn has been to the volunteer fire department of this town, and his birthday occurring as it does in the month of February, gives that month a place of unusual importance in local annals, as well as national, and with this fact in mind, Mr. Eichhorn's friends determined that his birthday anniversary should not pass unnoticed.

Mr. Eichhorn was seated in his comfortable home in Lake street, Monday evening, deeply engrossed in reading the newspaper account of the Baltimore fire and speculating upon the valuable service that Active Hose Company No. 2, could have rendered there when the door bell rang, and he went to the door to admit, as he supposed, some one who wanted to talk about wall paper. He was surprised to find an animated crowd of people at the door all anxious to get in. They filed past him to the number of two dozen or more, and he recognized faces from Union Hill, West Hoboken, Orange, Glen Ridge, Belleville, and many of his Lake street neighbors. "There is something doing," exclaimed Mr. Eichhorn, as he greeted the assembled guests, and they in turn began to shower congratulations upon him over his having reached the age of two score and seven, and then followed a "hand out" of testimonials of esteem and friendship in the form of handsome presents.

The veteran fireman felt for a few moments as crushed as a disbanding hose pipe, but he soon recovered his equanimity and entered into the enjoyments of the evening, and all present had a good night's fun.

The Exemption Veld.

Attorney General McCarter sent to the House of Assembly on Tuesday a communication relative to the question of the exemption of firemen from taxation, in which he said:

"An examination of the tax act of 1903 discloses that all persons enrolled as members of the fire departments of any taxing district or fire district under the control of any township committee, common council, or other authorized public body, are exempt from poll taxes and from State, county or municipal taxation upon real and personal property or both, to a value not exceeding in the aggregate \$500. It thus appears that the act has undertaken to exempt volunteer firemen of the character above described, but no members of the various firemen's relief associations.

"I am aware of no construction of this provision of the tax act, but I would draw your attention to the fact that the Supreme Court in the case of Tippet against McGrath held that practically the same exemption contained in the tax act under consideration was unconstitutional, and I presume, therefore, that the same conclusion would be reached in regard to the exemption in the act of 1903 should the Court of Errors and Appeals affirm the decision of the Supreme Court."

The Zbikoski Case.

Last September complaint was made against Constant Zbikoski, charging him with selling liquor in this town without license to do so. The complaint was tried in the recorder's court and judgment was rendered against Zbikoski. The defendant appealed his case to the Essex Court of Common Pleas. The appeal was set down for hearing on the opening of the December term of court, when the appeal was on motion of Town Attorney Halpenny, dismissed, and subsequently on motion and application of the town attorney, Judge Skinner made an order granting the town, which was the complainant in the case, leave to withdraw the bond from the files of the court for prosecution. Suit was then at once brought by the town on the bond for the recovery of the penalty for violating the ordinance, twenty dollars and costs incurred in the courts. The money, penalty and cost was promptly paid to the town authorities as soon as the summons was issued.

Wednesday, the 17th inst., is Ash Wednesday.

HAMPTON'S WORK

PORTRAYED BY WORDS AND PICTURES WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Before a Large Audience in Jarvis Memorial Hall—Interesting Account of the Institute Given by Chaplain M. B. Turner—Hampton Quartette's Melodious Afforded Great Pleasure.

Wednesday night was Hampton Institute night in Jarvis Memorial Hall. On that occasion the congregations of Westminster Church and the First Presbyterian Church, instead of holding the usual week-day prayer meeting in their respective churches, held a union meeting in the interests of Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute of Hampton, Virginia. The institution, as is generally known, is one for the education of negro and Indian youths—mentally, physically and morally—or, as it is more aptly termed, the education of the head, the hand and the heart. Bloomfield has had a close interest in Hampton for many years. The President of the institution, Rev. Dr. H. B. Frisell, is a former resident of this town, and Mrs. Frisell is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Amzi Dodd. The calling of Rev. George L. Curtis to the pastorate of the First Church still further extended Bloomfield's interest in Hampton, for Mr. Curtis was one of the Hampton faculty for six years. There was a large attendance at Wednesday night's meeting, and so well pleased were the people that was not until Rev. Mr. Paul reminded them that "all good things must have an end," that they reluctantly arose to depart.

The cause of Hampton was ably and interestingly presented by Rev. H. B. Turner, chaplain of the institute, who, with the aid of stereoscopic views, gave a clear, impressive account of the great work being done by Hampton Institute throughout the South and West. A quartette of young negroes sang negro melodies with fine effect, and afforded great pleasure.

Rev. Mr. Curtis introduced Chaplain Turner, and preceded the introduction with some impressive remarks about his own personal interest in Hampton Institute and its work, and of his official connection with the institution.

Chaplain Turner, in his opening remarks, alluded to the close relation existing between Bloomfield and Hampton, and how that the institute was indebted to Bloomfield for its able President, Dr. Frisell.

A picture of General B. C. Armstrong, the founder of the institute, was shown on the screen, and a brief sketch of his life was given, and also of the causes which led him to undertake his great work at Hampton.

Views of the exterior and interior of some of Hampton's sixty buildings, consisting of schools and hospitals, were shown, and also contrasting views between some of the houses that Hampton students came from in the South and West and the houses students built for themselves after leaving the institute. The picture of one of Hampton's most distinguished students, Booker T. Washington, was shown on the screen and received with applause.

The course of educational work at Hampton was described both orally and by pictures. The people responded with a liberal collection at the close of Chaplain Turner's address.

Hampton Institute has sent out eleven hundred graduates, of whom sixty per cent. are teaching, while at least six thousand undergraduates have gone out to prove the value of their industrial training. Over eighty per cent. of those who have taken trades are either practicing or teaching them. Eighty-seven per cent. of Hampton's returned Indians are reported as doing well. Wherever Hampton graduates have gone, land-holding has increased and crime correspondingly decreased.

It takes \$85,000 per annum to defray the educational work of the institute, and Hampton is dependent upon voluntary contributions for that sum of money annually.

3-Cent Trolley Fares.

Asp at the traction companies, in the form of a bill fixing a 3-cent rate of fare during certain hours of the day, was dealt by Assemblyman DeLander of Passaic, Monday night. The bill provides that between the hours of 5:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. each day except Saturday, and 6 o'clock and 7:30 o'clock in the morning and 12 to 12:30 noon on every Saturday, no street railway corporation shall be allowed to charge more than three cents as fare from any passenger. The three-cent fare shall entitle any passenger during the hours mentioned to a continuous ride to any point on the line in the same direction, regardless of the time at which the destination may be reached.

PROTECT your securities and valuable papers against FIRE and BURGLARS by renting a box in the Safe Deposit Vault of The Bloomfield National Bank. Boxes to rent at \$4.00 per year and upwards.—Add.